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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

CONFIRMATION NO. 5386

Applicant : Hidetomo UEMUKAI, et al.
Serial No. : 09/966,082 Art Unit : 1744
Filed : October 1, 2001 Examiner : Gary K. GRAHAM
For : Cleaning Process System and Cleaning Process Apparatus

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J.B.
10/9/03

RESPONSE TO PAPER NO. 4

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir :

A response to the Office Action mailed September 30, 2003 (Paper No. 4) is due by October 30, 2003. Paper No. 4 required restriction between Group I of claims 1-21, drawn to a cleaning processing system, and Group II of claims 22-36, drawn to a cleaning processing apparatus.

Applicants hereby elect Group II of claims 22-36, drawn to a cleaning processing apparatus, for prosecution in this application. The election is made without traverse.

Applicants reserve the right to file divisional application(s) for the non-elected claims in due course. Applicants submit that this application now is in condition for examination on the merits and early action in that regard is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date : October 7, 2003